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Dear VR Provider,

I want to take this opportunity to do a couple of things. First, I want to introduce myself to you as the new Vocational Rehabilitation Consultant with the Bureau of Workers' & Unemployment Compensation. Second, I want to roll out the new Vocational Rehabilitation Closure Code list and Monthly Activity Report format that you should begin using on April 1, 2003.

I am twice a graduate of Michigan State University, having received a BS in Psychology, followed by an MA in Rehabilitation Counseling. I come to this position from Steelcase Inc. in Grand Rapids, where for almost 8 years, I supervised the Disability Management Services Department. In that role, I was responsible for making sure that employees of the company received comprehensive return-to-work services—including onsite vocational rehabilitation—in a timely, safe and effective manner. As many of you know, it can be a fine line walked between the needs of the employee and the direction of the company. However, during times when this line was cloudy, I turned to my profession and remembered why I chose this career: to help people with disabilities, injuries, or illnesses maximize their physical and vocational well being. As I begin my new journey with the Bureau, I remain more committed than ever to this goal.

Above all, I want you to know these three things about me as they relate to this position: 1) I believe in the positive impact our profession can make on the lives of our customers; 2) I believe in accountability for all parties involved in vocational rehabilitation; and 3) I believe in the ethical application of VR services at all times. I think these beliefs fit well with the ongoing goals and mission of the Vocational Rehabilitation Division. For those needing a quick refresher with respect to our charge, the Vocational Rehabilitation Division continues to be responsible for ensuring that employers provide rehabilitation services according to the provisions of the Workers' Disability Compensation Act. We also make sure that the injured employees understand and accept such services. We provide information and assistance to all parties as needed, conduct VR hearings, approve/monitor rehabilitation facilities, monitor ongoing rehabilitation programs, and conduct periodic training programs.

Mr. Doug Langham served distinguishingly for 25 years in the position that I have humbly accepted, and I hope to continue with the excellent service he provided while remaining open to new and exciting ideas for positive change and enhanced effectiveness. Your questions, comments and concerns are always welcome, and I look forward to working with, and learning from you all!

Now that we have THAT on the table, let me introduce an initial (minor) process change that should make reporting easier for you, and provide us both with more comprehensive data going forward. Enclosed you will find a newly developed **VR Closure Code** list that we feel provides more flexibility and accuracy for providers. We have also enclosed an updated **Monthly Activity Report** format that should help streamline the reporting process. Both of these items are available on our website for you to download. The website address is: www.michigan.gov/bwuc. From there, click on the "Workers' Compensation" tab on the left side of the screen, then on "Vocational Rehabilitation". The documents are under "Other Information". Our goal is for you to begin emailing your monthly statistics directly to us using the new format beginning with your reports for **April, 2003**. So, the new codes go into effect on April 1, but your first report using the new codes won't be due until May, when you send in your information for the previous month. We encourage you to email your reports to the following address: drcampb@michigan.gov. However, you are welcome to continue mailing them. For now, continue to use the old format for the March report, and to those of you with multiple locations, please consider combining all of your reports into one instead of sending separately.

You may have heard the phrase, "In God we trust, everyone else bring data." As with any data management, the reports are only as good as the data that goes into the system. As a Bureau Approved Facility, you are responsible for maintaining accurate data, and for sending that data to us in a timely and consistent manner each month. In return, we are compiling the data and will be publishing annual statistics on the website based on your information.

Please do not hesitate to call or write to us if you have any questions with respect to the new process. I look forward to talking with you all in the near future, and plan on visiting many if not all of the Bureau Approved Facilities over the next year. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David R. Campbell". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

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